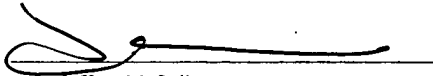


**CERTIFICATE OF HAND DELIVERY**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being hand filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Washington, D.C. on January 23, 2004.

  
Jeffery McCuller

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Kenichi SAWADA

Prior Serial No.: 09/484,540

Prior Filing Date: January 18, 2000

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS

Prior Examiner: J. Wu

Prior Group Art Unit: 2623

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § § 1.97 & 1.98**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § § 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents were previously submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement and/or Office Action, directed to the related application Serial Number 09/484,540, filed January 18, 2000, and, accordingly, copies are not included herewith. This protocol conforms with 37 CFR §1.98(d) and MPEP 609(A)(2). The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record in the application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

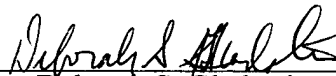
Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR § 1.97 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing 325772014210.

Dated: January 23, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number 325772014210	Prior Application Number 09/484,540
	Applicant  Kenichi SAWADA	
	Filing Date January 23, 2004	Prior Group Art Unit 2623

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
		03/10/1998	5,726,780	HIROTA et al.			
		02/16/1988	4,725,966	DARBY et al.			
		10/13/1987	4,700,399	YOSHIDA			
		06/01/1999	5,909,505	KATAYAMA et al.			
		11/1994	5,361,147	KATAYAMA et al.			
		07-1995	5,430,557	TAMURA et al.			
		10-1994	5,357,353	HIROTA			
		12-1998	5,850,293	SUZUKI et al.			
		07-2000	6,088,130	MATSUKUBO			
		04-1998	5,742,410	SUZUKI			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO	
	1.	01/07/86	61-1171	Japanese				
	2.	10/23/89	1-264847	Japanese				
	3.	02/10/92	4-40074	Japanese				
	4.	01/19/96	8-18812	Japanese				
	5.	02/18/92	4-19072	Japanese				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	
EXAMINER: (examiner)		DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.